NOTES ON THE LACE AND EMBROIDERY SECTION OF THE MYSORE DASARA INDUSTRIAL AND AGRICULTURAL EXHIBITION.

Owing partly to the fact that it is extremely difficult to translate into Indian Vernaculars English terms used for Needle-work and Embroidery, and partly because people do not readily understand the difference between an Exhibition and an ordinary shop or stall, exhibitors have not always understood what articles are required and will be rewarded, and have sent in much to former Exhibitions that, even if good in itself, was debarred from getting any prize by the fact that it was not asked for in the Prospectus.

It has therefore been thought well to publish a few explanatory notes.

The room devoted to the lace and embroidery section is necessarily limited and it is not possible in any one year to include all kinds of needle-work.

If too many specimens are received, they cannot be displayed effectively and the crowding of embroideries, etc., only results in confusion, dust, damage to the exhibits, and prevents their being satisfactorily shown.

Therefore instead of crowding the stalls with masses of needle-work, good and bad, old and new, clean and dirty, whether included in the Prospectus, or not, the Sub-Committee wish the Exhibition to be confined to such specimens only as—

(1) are asked for in the Prospectus,
(2) are considered by them to be really of excellent workmanship,
(3) are new and fresh.

N. B.—Valuable specimens of old embroidery, lace or needle-work should be placed apart in "A loan exhibition."

Exhibitors would do well to note that the best materials available should be used, and that one perfect specimen of any particular work is much more likely to gain a prize than many indifferent specimens. For instance, one silk tie, perfectly knitted in good silk of a nice colour, would stand a better chance of reward than a score of ties carelessly knitted.

Moth-eaten, faded, torn or dirty work cannot be accepted.

Competitors will please note that this year cushions worked in wool work, crewel work, chenille work or bead work are not included in the Prospectus; and also that the bead work and miscellaneous work mentioned in Group III, 5 and 6, are only to be done at the Exhibition itself, before judges, in the working competition; and that no bead work or miscellaneous work is to be sent for Exhibition.

In judging the needle-work, its suitability for use and sale (including the possibility of its being easily cleaned or washed) will be taken into consideration, as well as beauty of design, material, colouring and workmanship.

Preference will be given to Swadeshi exhibits and particularly to those of the Mysore manufacture.

In "the working competition before judges" careful arrangements will be made to respect the gosha or "purdah nashin" and high caste ladies.

All apparatus and materials for that competition must be provided by the competitors. Work may be fixed but not begun.

G. SUBBUSWAMI IYER,
Secretary.